

# A CHILD IS BORN

Words & Music by James W. Keefe

*Legato*  
*mp*

Soprano

1. A child is born to us this night, While an - gels sing - on

Alto

*mp*

Tenor

1. A child is born to us this night while an - gels sing on

Bass

*mf*

S

high. - They bring to us the ti - dings bright, Ho - sa - nas fill the

A

*mf*

T

high. - They bring to us a ti - dings bright, Ho - sa - nas fill the

B

## A CHILD IS BORN

8 *p* *mp*

S sky. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The one of whom - the

A sky. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The one of whom - the

T 8 *p* *mp*

B sky. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The one of whom the

12 *mf*

S pro - phets sing. A child is born to us this night, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

A pro - phets sing. A child is born to us this night, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

T 8 *mf*

B pro - phets sing, A child is born to us - this night, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

## A CHILD IS BORN

3

16 *mf*

S ring. - 2. The Wis - dom of the Lord shines down, Up - on the sta - ble

A *mf*

T ring. - - - - -

B

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 16 through 19. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are written in treble clef. The Soprano part begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The Alto part begins with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and then a series of eighth notes. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts are written in treble and bass clefs respectively, and contain whole rests for all four measures. The lyrics for the Soprano part are: "ring. - 2. The Wis - dom of the Lord shines down, Up - on the sta - ble". The lyrics for the Alto part are: "ring. - - - - -". The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the first measure of both the Soprano and Alto parts.

20

S poor, - And shep - herds come to Beth - le'hem town, Em - man - u - el to a -

A

T

B

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 20 through 23. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are written in treble clef. The Soprano part begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The Alto part begins with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and then a series of eighth notes. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts are written in treble and bass clefs respectively, and contain whole rests for all four measures. The lyrics for the Soprano part are: "poor, - And shep - herds come to Beth - le'hem town, Em - man - u - el to a -". The lyrics for the Alto part are: "poor, - - - - -". The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the first measure of both the Soprano and Alto parts.

## A CHILD IS BORN

24 *mp*

S dore. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom - the

A *mp*

T

B

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of a musical score for four voices. It covers measures 24 to 27. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are written in treble clef. The Soprano part begins with a half note 'dore.' followed by a quarter rest, then a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Alto part begins with a half note, followed by a quarter rest, then a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts are written in treble and bass clefs respectively, but contain only whole rests throughout this system. The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) appears above the Soprano staff at measure 24 and above the Alto staff at measure 25. The lyrics 'dore. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom - the' are aligned under the Soprano staff.

28 *mf*

S pro - phets sing; The Wis - dom of the Lord shines down, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

A *mf*

T

B

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, covering measures 28 to 31. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts continue their melodic lines. The Soprano part has a dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) at measure 28. The Alto part also has a *mf* marking at measure 28. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts remain silent with whole rests. The lyrics 'pro - phets sing; The Wis - dom of the Lord shines down, While sweet - ho - sa - nas' are aligned under the Soprano staff. The dynamic marking *mf* appears above the Soprano staff at measure 28 and above the Alto staff at measure 28.

# A CHILD IS BORN

5

32

S ring. - - - - -

A - - - - -

T *f* 8 - - 3. Then wise - men three come from a - far, The King of kings to be -

B *f* 8 - - 3. Then wise - men three come from a - far, The King of kings to be -

36

S - - - - -

A - - - - -

T 8 hold, - Di - rec - ted by - the heav'n - ly star, Their won - der - ful gifts un -

B 8 hold, - Di - rec - ted by - the heav'n - ly star, Their won - der - ful gifts un -

40

S

A

T

B

*mp*

*mf*

8 fold - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The one of whom - the

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 40 through 43. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are represented by staves with whole rests. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts have active notation. In measure 40, the Tenor part begins with a half note 'fold' and a fermata, followed by eighth notes for 'For born to us is a'. The Bass part mirrors this with a half note 'fold' and a fermata, followed by eighth notes for 'For born to us is a'. Dynamics *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) are indicated. Measures 41-43 continue the melody for both parts, with lyrics 'viour King, The one of whom - the'.

44

S

A

T

B

*f*

8 pro - phets sing. The wise - men three - come from a - far, While sweet - ho-san - nas

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 44 through 47. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are represented by staves with whole rests. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts have active notation. In measure 44, the Tenor part begins with a half note 'pro - phets sing.' and a fermata, followed by eighth notes for 'The wise - men three - come from'. The Bass part mirrors this with a half note 'pro - phets sing.' and a fermata, followed by eighth notes for 'The wise - men three - come from'. Dynamics *f* (forte) is indicated. Measures 45-47 continue the melody for both parts, with lyrics 'a - far, While sweet - ho-san - nas'.

# A CHILD IS BORN

7

*ff*

48

S - - 4.To You O Bles - sed Trin - i - ty, To God - head One - and  
 \*A Child is born to us this night, While an - gels sing - On

A

*ff*

T ring. - 4.To You O Bles - sed Tri - ni - ty, To God - head One sing in  
 \*A Child is born to us this night, While an - gels sing on

B

52

S Three, - All praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty, Un - end - ing glo - ry  
 high. - They bring to us the ti - dings bright, Ho - sa - nas fill the

A

T Three, - All praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty, Un - end - ing glo - ry  
 high. - They bring to us the ti - dings bright, Ho - sa - nas fill the

B

\* The first verse may be substituted for verse 4 in concert and other more secular settings.

## A CHILD IS BORN

56

*mp* *mf*

S be. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom - the  
sky. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom - the

A

*mp* *mf*

T 8 be. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom the  
sky. - For born to us is a Sa - viour King, The One of whom the

B

60

*f*

S pro - phets sing; To You O Bles - sed Tri - ni - ty, Let sweet - ho - sa - nas  
pro - phets sing. A Child is born to us this night, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

A

*f*

T 8 pro - phets sing; To You - O Bles - sed Tri - ni - ty, Let sweet - ho - sa - nas  
pro - phets sing. A Child - is born - to us - this night, While sweet - ho - sa - nas

B



# A CHILD IS BORN

9

64

*mf* *rit. ff*

S

ring. — While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring.  
 ring. - While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. —

A

*mf* *ff*

T

8 ring. - While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring.  
 ring. ho - sa While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. —

B

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano part begins at measure 64 and features a melodic line with lyrics. The Alto part follows a similar pattern. The Tenor part includes a vocal range indicator of '8' and has lyrics that include 'ho - sa'. The Bass part provides a harmonic foundation. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo), with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking before the final *ff*. The lyrics are: 'ring. — While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring.' for Soprano and Alto, and 'ring. - While sweet - ho - sa - nas ring. - Let sweet - ho - sa - nas ring.' for Tenor and Bass, with some variations in phrasing.